WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for estimating cash flow at risk for a non-financial entity over a particular future time period, comprising:

receiving quarterly data associated with at least two of a plurality of non-financial entities;

generating a plurality of data elements, each of said plurality of data elements representing a portion of said quarterly data of an associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

selecting one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities; and

estimating said cash flow at risk for said selected one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities based on at least two of said plurality of data elements.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of data elements includes:

an indication of a calendar quarter to which the data element pertains; and

an indication of a year to which the data element pertains.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of data elements includes:

an indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of assets for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities; and

an indication of actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets, said indication of actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets calculated by dividing said indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and

amortization for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year by said indication of assets for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein each of the plurality of data elements further comprises:

an indication of market capitalization for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of average income to assets for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of annualized stock price volatility during said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of an industry to which said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities belongs; and

an indication of cashflow volatility of said industry to which said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities belongs.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of data elements includes an indication of an earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast error for one quarter in the future for said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for per asset forecast error for one quarter in the future is calculated by generating an earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast for one quarter in the future for said associated one of said at least two of said

plurality of non-financial entities using linear regression, and subtracting said indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast for one quarter in the future from said indication of actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset.

7. The method of claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of data elements includes an indication of an earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast error for one year in the future for said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for per asset forecast error for one year in the future is calculated by generating an earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast for one year in the future for said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities using linear regression, and subtracting said indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast for one year in the future from said indication of actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said plurality of data elements includes one third of said plurality of data elements, said one third of said plurality of data elements having said indication of market capitalization centered around said indication of market capitalization of one of said plurality of data elements associated with said selected one of the plurality of non-financial entities.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said estimating step further comprises determining a five percent tail event for a forecast error by selecting said quarter ahead forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one quarter in the future of one

of said one third of said plurality of data elements with the highest forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one quarter in the future of said one third of said at least two of the plurality of data elements that is within the lowest five percent of the data elements contained within said one third of said plurality of data elements.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein said estimating step further comprises determining a one percent tail event for a forecast error by selecting said quarter ahead forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one quarter in the future of one of said one third of said plurality of data elements with the highest forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one quarter in the future of said one third of said at least two of the plurality of data elements that is within the lowest one percent of the data elements contained within said one third of said plurality of data elements.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein said estimating step further comprises determining a five percent tail event for a forecast error by selecting said year ahead forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one year in the future of one of said one third of said plurality of data elements with the highest forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one year in the future of said one third of said at least two of the plurality of data elements that is within the lowest five percent of the data elements contained within said one third of said plurality of data elements.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein said estimating step further comprises determining a one percent tail event for a forecast error by selecting said year ahead forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one year in the future of one of said one third of said plurality of data elements with the highest forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one year in the future of said one

third of said at least two of the plurality of data elements that is within the lowest one percent of the data elements contained within said one third of said plurality of data elements.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein said plurality of data elements includes one third of said plurality of data elements, said one third of said plurality of data elements having said indication of average income to assets centered around said indication of average income to assets of one of said plurality of data elements associated with said selected one of the plurality of non-financial entities.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein said plurality of data elements includes one third of said plurality of data elements, said one third of said plurality of data elements having said indication of annualized stock price volatility centered around said indication of annualized stock price volatility of one of said plurality of data elements associated with said selected one of the plurality of non-financial entities.

16. The method of claim 8, wherein said plurality of data elements includes one third of said plurality of data elements, said one third of said plurality of data elements having said indication of cashflow volatility of the industry centered around said indication of cashflow volatility of the industry of one of said plurality of data elements associated with said selected one of the plurality of non-financial entities.

17. The method of claim 8, wherein said plurality of data elements include each of the plurality of data elements having said indication of said industry which is the same as said indication of said industry of one of said plurality of data elements associated with said selected one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial firms.

18. A computer system comprising:

means for receiving quarterly data associated with at least two of a plurality of non-financial entities;

means for generating a plurality of data elements, each of said plurality of data elements representing a portion of said quarterly data of an associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

means for selecting one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities; and

means for estimating said cash flow at risk for said selected one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities based on at least two of said plurality of data elements.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of data elements includes:

an indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of assets for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities; and

and indication of actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets, said indication of actual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets calculated by dividing said indication of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year by said indication of assets for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein each of the plurality of data elements further includes:

an indication of market capitalization for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of average income to assets for said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of annualized stock price volatility during said indicated calendar quarter of said indicated year of said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities;

an indication of an industry to which said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities belongs; and

an indication of cashflow volatility of said industry to which said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities belongs.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein each of the plurality of data elements includes an indication of an earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per asset forecast error for one quarter in the future for said associated one of said at least two of said plurality of non-financial entities.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein said plurality of data elements includes one third of said plurality of data elements, said one third of said plurality of data elements having said indication of market capitalization centered around said indication of market capitalization of one of said plurality of data elements associated with said selected one of the plurality of non-financial entities.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said estimating step further comprises determining a five percent tail event for a forecast error by selecting said quarter ahead forecast error earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one quarter in the future of one of said one third of said plurality of data elements with the highest forecast error earnings before

interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization per assets for one quarter in the future of said one third of said at least two of the plurality of data elements that is within the lowest five percent of the data elements contained within said one third of said plurality of data elements.